REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner, Mr. Ingberg, for his courtesy and assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application during an interview conducted on May 20, 2004. As indicated in the Interview Summary, during the interview, counsel and the Examiner discussed certain aspects of the invention which appear to be directed to allowable subject matter. (In paragraph 7 of the Office Action, the Examiner has referred to Figures 5 and 12. However, during the interview, it was concluded that the proper reference should have been Figures 5 and 13.)

By the foregoing amendment, Applicants have revised the language of Claims 1 and 11 in the manner discussed with the Examiner. In addition, the phrase "not-to-use" has been substituted for the previous terminology, in order to be consistent throughout the claims and the specification, as also discussed. Finally, new Claims 13 through 17 have been added, Claim 17 being a method claim. Consistently with the discussion between the counsel and the Examiner, Claim 17 recites the order in which the system operator selects between use and not-to-use options, relative to the step in which the code is actually generated. Accordingly, for the reasons discussed during the interview, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1, 11 and 17, and therefore all claims of record in this application are now allowable.

Serial No. 09/253,944

Amendment Dated: May 20, 2004

Reply to Office Action Mailed November 20, 2003

Attorney Docket No. 381NP47598

In response to the rejection of Claims 1, 8, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C.

§112, first paragraph, Applicants note that the language referred to in paragraph

2 of the Office Action has been deleted from the claims.

In light of the foregoing remarks, this application should be in condition

for allowance, and early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. If

there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general,

a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should

expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as

a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and

please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit

Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381NP/47598).

Respectfully submitted,

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